CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for preventing or for treating chronic pain comprising administering to a patient in need of treatment an effective amount of a synergistic combination of a NK_1 receptor antagonist and a GABA analog.

2. A method of Claim 1 wherein the ratio of the GABA analog relative to the NK_1 receptor antagonist is from 50:1 to 1:1 expressed as parts by weight.

3. A method of Claim 1 wherein the ratio of the GABA analog relative to the NK_1 receptor antagonist is 20:1 expressed as parts by weight.

4. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the NK_1 receptor antagonist is [2-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)-1-methyl-1-(1-phenyl-ethylcarbamoyl)-ethyl]-carbamic acid benzofuran-2-ylmethyl ester [R-(R*,S*)].

5. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the GABA analog is gabapentin.

6. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the GABA analog is pregabalin.

7. A method according to Claim 1 employing [2-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)-1-methyl-1-(1-phenyl-ethylcarbamoyl)-ethyl]-carbamic acid benzofuran-2-ylmethyl ester [R-(R*,S*)] and gabapentin.

8. A method according to Claim 1 employing [2-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)-1-methyl-1-(1-phenyl-ethylcarbamoyl)-ethyl]-carbamic acid benzofuran-2-ylmethyl ester [R-(R*,S*)] and pregabalin.

9. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the condition treated is selected from causalgia, neuropathic pain, diabetic neuropathy, post-surgery or

traumatic neuropathy, postherpetic neuralgia, peripheral neuropathy, entrapment neuropathy, phantom limb and stump pain, neuropathy caused by alcohol abuse, HIV infection, multiple sclerosis, hypothyroidism or anticancer chemotherapy

10. A pharmaceutical composition comprising synergistic effective amounts of a NK_1 receptor antagonist and a GABA analog.

11. A composition of Claim 10 wherein the ratio of the GABA analog relative to the NK_1 receptor antagonist is from 50:1 to 1:1 expressed as parts by weight.

12. A composition of Claim 10 wherein the ratio of the GABA analog relative to the NK_1 receptor antagonist is 20:1 expressed as parts by weight.

13. A composition of Claim 10 wherein the NK_1 receptor antagonist is [2-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)-1-methyl-1-(1-phenyl-ethylcarbamoyl)-ethyl]-carbamic acid benzofuran-2-ylmethyl ester [R-(R*,S*)].

14. A composition of Claim 10 wherein the GABA analog is gabapentin.

15. A composition of Claim 10 wherein the GABA analog is pregabalin.

16. A composition of Claim 10 employing [2-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)-1-methyl-1-(1-phenyl-ethylcarbamoyl)-ethyl]-carbamic acid benzofuran-2-ylmethyl ester [R-(R*,S*)] and gabapentin.

17. A composition of Claim 1 employing [2-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)-1-methyl-1-(1-phenyl-ethylcarbamoyl)-ethyl]-carbamic acid benzofuran-2-ylmethyl ester [R-(R*,S*)] and pregabalin.

18. The use of a composition comprising synergistic effective amounts of a NK_1 receptor antagonist and a GABA analog, or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, for the preparation of a medicament useful for preventing or treating chronic pain.

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